Northampton Mercury

Thursday, June 21, 2012

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Thursday, June 21, 2012 First published 1720

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Council leader fights 'offensive web troll'

THE leader of Northampton Borough Council has taken action against an internet "troll" who has been impersonating him online.

An unknown member of the public set up a fake Twitter account impersonating Councillor David Mackintosh *(Con, Rectory Farm)* in May last year.

To date, almost 500 messages have been published through the account, many of which Councillor Mackintosh has described as "seriously offensive".

He said: "If it was just meant to be a parody, I wouldn't care, but it's become really vicious."

It is believed the troll – a term used to describe people who post deliberately offensive messages on the internet – also set up accounts pretending to be several other councillors.

Councillor David Mackintosh

Statements made under the fake Councillor Mackintosh account range from childish insults to claims his activities include "plotting and scheming".

Councillor Mackintosh said: "I actually worry about the person who does it because they've clearly got an unhealthy obsession. It's one thing to show an interest in politics, but it's another to spend all your free time making up things I'm supposed to be saying or doing."

Lawyers at the Guildhall have submitted documents to Twitter calling for the fake accounts to be closed. The move comes at the same time the Government has announced website owners will soon be forced to identify people who post malicious messages.

CE picture MNCE-13-06-12-SL31

End-of-the-year art show

Northampton College's end of year show, called In Bloom, displayed the works of art, design, media, photography and performing arts students. Pictured is Dovile Jokuliene, who is studying a BTEC level two diploma in art and design.

Readers' ideas put into action

OUR sister paper, the *Northampton Chronicle & Echo*, which has been relaunched as a weekly newspaper, now has a bigger and better entertainments supplement.

***The Guide* now includes seven-day television listings, cinema times and a more detailed what's on round-up.**

Editor David Summers said: "We've had some great feedback from readers, but these were the requests that stood out as content people wanted to see in the new paper.

"We've increased our Guide supplement to 28 pages, making it an even more comprehensive round-up of what's on."

Readers can tell Mr Summers what else they would like to see in the *Chron* by emailing editor@northantsnews.co.uk

Nine drivers on drink charges

POLICE arrested 11 people during the second week of a drink-driving crackdown in the county. Officers said the results were "positive". However, the overall number of people who have now been arrested as part of the month-long operation still remains up on last year.

Chief Inspector Dave Lawson, from Specialist Operations, said: "The figures are promising and show half the number of arrests for this period compared with last year. This is good news and we want to continue ensuring that people are not drinking and driving."

Nine people were charged last week.

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Anglian Water employee Neil Bingham at Pitsford Reservoir which has returned to healthy levels

'Wettest drought' is over as it pours and pours

ANGLIAN Water ended what many have dubbed the wettest hosepipe ban in history last week following a rainy start to June.

Councillor David Mackintosh *(Con, Rectory Farm)*, Northampton Borough Council leader, said yesterday the news meant the Market Square fountain, favoured by many children during hot summer days, would now be turned back on.

He said: "We have already contacted the company we use to service the water feature to arrange for them to come to Northampton and switch it back on as soon as possible."

Many county people had picked up on the irony that ever since people were warned not to use garden hoses, the rain had barely stopped, aside from one hot week in May.

Paul Valleley, Anglian Water's director of water services, said: "When we introduced the ban back on April 5, we had just been through the driest year on record and gone through two winters without the rainfall needed to recharge reservoirs and aquifers.

"We were heading into the summer with reserves well below normal.

"Effectively, we had three months worth of 'winter rain' in April.

"This was followed by a wet and cool May and June. The persistent rain and low temperatures have extended the recharge season into the early summer, and this has made all the difference."

While Anglian Water is confident supplies are now secure this summer, it is still asking people to reduce usage when possible, whatever the weather, to conserve supplies.

Exceptionally wet weather since the start of April, which was in itself the wettest in 113 years, and in June has boosted flows in many rivers and largely refilled reservoirs hit hard by the two year-long drought.

Many groundwater aquifers – underground layers of water-bearing rock – have also recovered from what had been record low levels in some areas.

However, some aquifers remain low and are now likely to remain so until they can be recharged by sustained rainfall in winter.

Groundwater aquifers account for almost half of the water Anglian Water supplies.

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Roads closed for the Olympic Torch

MAJOR traffic restrictions have been announced for the arrival of the Olympic Torch in Northampton on July 2, which starts at about 10am in Weedon Road (near Gambrel Road), travelling through the town centre and finishing at Becket's Park an hour or so later.

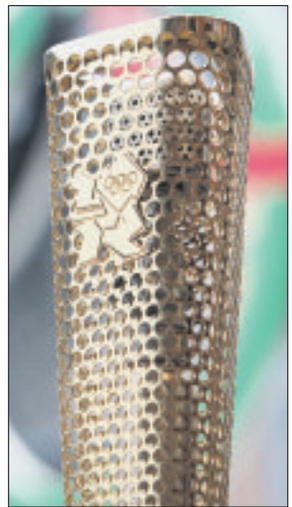
From 9am, 49 roads in the region will be closed and will not reopen until after the torch leaves town.

Parking restrictions will be in place from the early hours, which means parked cars might need to be moved or otherwise towed away.

The main roads affected are Weedon Road, St James Road, St Peter's Way, Bridge Street, Drapery, through the Market Square to Abington Street and then St Giles Street, Guildhall Road, St John's Street, Victoria Promenade and ending in Becket's Park.

Thousands are expected and the relay organisers, LOCOG suggest people get there at least an hour beforehand.

For information about the relay, visit www.northampton.gov.uk/olympictorchrelay or call 0300 330 7000.



Girls outraged as skirts are banned at secondary school

A SECONDARY school near Northampton has banned girls from wearing skirts, insisting they cover up by wearing trousers instead.

Moulton Science College in Pound Lane has written to parents saying skirts are 'no longer acceptable dress' and will be banned from September. The school claimed the controversial decision was simply a 'minor change' to the dress code.

Headteacher Trevor Jones said: "We are trying to fight the impetus in schools of the early sexualisation of children. I have Year Seven girls coming into school with skirts halfway up their thighs or even higher, some of them would be more appropriate in a nightclub than in a classroom.

"There is enough pressure as it is about how girls look and we want school to be an oasis away from that, somewhere the girls can come and enjoy their learning."

For the past year the school has stipulated that skirts must be knee length but the rules have consistently been flouted.

Mr Jones said: "The problem is when you call a girl into the office their skirt is at knee length but then they go round the corner and hitch it up a few inches.

"The minimum length wasn't working so we looked at a total ban. Obviously not everyone is in favour and I have had complaints from girls and parents but we think this will make the school a safer place.

"The boys are in favour, they have been grumbling for ages that the girls have been getting away with flouting the uniform policy while they are getting nagged at for having loose ties."

Many girls at the school are understood to have been outraged by the move, and the decision prompted anger from members of the school student council.

Mr Jones said: "Most of the girls on the council wear skirts."

The new rules come into force in September and anybody who fails to comply will be told to wait in reception and their parents contacted to come and collect them and buy a pair of suitable trousers. Some parents said it was a draconian move.

One mother, who did not want to be identified, said: "My 14- year-old daughter and her friends are all fuming over this. Girls have worn skirts for centuries - it's part of being female. To deny them that just smacks of political correctness. A minority have skirts that are clearly too short, but there's no need for this. To just outlaw them is discrimination against girls."

The updated uniform policy at Moulton School also contains a ban on scarves and hats, except in cold weather, while 360 degree brim sun hats will also be allowed 'at the discretion of the headteacher'.

Girls are not allowed to use nail varnish while no 'extreme' use of make-up will be permitted. hair must be of a natural colour.

Jewellery is also banned, as are trousers which contain any 'non-black' stitching or that have visible metal buttons.

Build or get out, MPs tell centre owner

THE owner of Northampton's Grosvenor Centre has been told by the town's two MPs to either get on with the expansion plan or sell the centre.

Legal & General, which bought the shopping centre in 1999, announced this week it was no longer working on a planning application to expand the centre over the site of the Greyfriars bus station.

But the MP for Northampton South, Brian Binley, said the latest hitch, which comes 12 years after expansion plans for the centre were first published, was a delay too far.

Calling for Legal & General bosses to redevelop the centre or sell it to another firm which would, he said: "They should either get on with it or get out and, to me, it looks like they should get out."

He was backed by the MP for Northampton North, Michael Ellis, who added: "They've got to either put up or shut up. If they can't do it, they should sell-up to somebody who wants to, and the sooner the better."

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Waterways enthusiasts were able to take boat rides into the Blisworth Tunnel and get a glimpse of what life would have been like with a display of working narrow boats, canal craft demonstrations, children's storytelling workshops and a one woman theatre show about life on "the cut".

Log on to www.northamptonchron.co.uk for more pictures from this event and to order copies of any of the photographs.

Pictures by Kelly Cooper

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www.funerals-in-northamptonshire.co.uk

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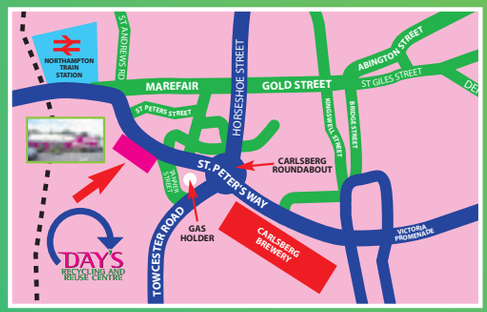

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New date set for town's carnival

Northampton Carnival will now be on July 14 *Library picture*

A NEW date has been set for the Northampton Carnival after it was cancelled for the first time in six years due to bad weather conditions.

The event, which centres on Delapre Park, was called off only hours before it was due to take place.

Northampton Borough Council made the 11th-hour decision to postpone the carnival due to the health and safety threat posed by weather predictions of high winds and rain.

The council has since worked with the Northampton Carnival Committee to decide on a new date for the event and the carnival will now take place on Saturday, July 14.

Carnival chairman Morcea Walker said they were devastated the event had to be postponed.

And a spokesman added: "Following months of intense planning we were extremely disappointed.

"However we are pleased to be now working with the bor-ough towards another fantastic carnival on July 14.

"We invite the community to come out when Delapre Park opens from noon to enjoy the stalls, the fun fair and live entertainment on stage until 7.30pm, along with the spectacular parade."

The carnival procession will leave Delapre Abbey at 2pm, heading into the town centre and along St Giles Street and Abington Street before returning to Delapre where a host of entertainers will appear.

Councillor David Mackintosh, leader of Northampton Borough Council, said: "It was so disappointing the carnival was unable to go ahead as originally planned, but I am pleased we have been able to work with the organisers to quickly announce a new date.

"I look forward to a fantastic event which we can all be proud of."

Councillor Brandon Eldred, cabinet member for community engagement, said: "I am pleased the carnival will go ahead on July 14 and everyone can see the results from months of hard work in organising the event.

"We will work very hard with the organisers to make sure this is a carnival to remember."

For more information call Northampton 779024.

■ The Earls Barton Carnival, which was due to take place last Saturday, has also been rescheduled due to the weather.

The event, which takes place at Earls Barton recreational field, will now take place on Saturday, July 7.

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Former Church's shop can be split

A NATIONAL planning inspector has said the former Church's China building in Northampton town centre can be split into separate shops and flats.

The decision comes despite members of Northampton Borough Council last year blocking the development because of fears it would have a "massive detrimental impact" on the town centre.

The chairman of the council's planning committee, Councillor Penny Flavell (Con, Rushmills) said she was very disappointed with the planning inspector's decision.

She said: "It breaks my heart to be honest. I really don't know why he's made this decision.

"It will lose us potential retail space in what is one of the best shopping streets in the town centre. It's very sad."

The large shop, which stands in the centre of St Giles Street, has been empty since Church's China moved out in the middle of last year.

When councillors considered the plans to split the building in two and create five flats on the upper floors, they said they would be "doing the town a disservice" if they allowed the development to go ahead.

But after the developers behind the scheme appealed against the decision, national planning inspector John Woolcock looked at the proposals again.

In a report published this month, he said the development would not harm the town centre.

He said: "The sub-division of the ground floor would not, by itself, significantly affect the character or appearance of the area."

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Police study the cannabis plants found at a house in Semilong

Cannabis den found in street

NEIGHBOURS have told of their shock after police swooped on a terrace house in Semilong that had been turned into a cannabis den.

Officers swooped on the house in Stanley Street on Tuesday morning following a tip-off from a member of the public just 16 hours earlier.

Inside they found 360 cannabis plants growing in three bedrooms and the basement.

Two men, aged 26 and 43, and a boy, aged 17, all from South East Asia were arrested at the property.

Pc Catling, who led the raid, said the intelligence had come from neighbours and urged landlords to be more vigilant with their checks.

He said: "As with most of the cannabis factorites we discover this has been community led.

"We were told last night about it and within 16 hours we have put the door through."

He added: "We have a cannabis growing room in the basement and three bedrooms upstairs. They were all converted into cannabis growing or cannabis cultivation areas so it is quite an organised job."

Neighbours spoke of their shock after the raids. They said the suspects had lived in the house since March and described hearing hammering and drilling at night.

One neighbour, who did not wish to be named, said: "It was very shocking when they put the door in.

"We heard a bit of drilling at night but we never thought for a second that it would be something like this.

"It has shaken me up a little bit because I just wasn't expecting this."

£79k pay-offs at NGH

TEN members of staff have been given average pay-offs of £79,000 each after they were made redundant by Northampton General Hospital.

Health bosses revealed staff numbers had reduced by a net total of 56 staff since last year's cutbacks began, as the hospital aims to save £30 million over two years.

Ten of them were made compulsorily redundant and collected 'exit packages' of at least £10,000 each.

Three of them pocketed golden goodbyes worth

between £100,000 and £150,000.

The remaining 46 positions were axed through a combination of retirements and voluntary redundancies.

In the latter case, it is understood that no payments have been offered by NGH bosses, with workers simply getting basic statutory redundancy.

The hospital also implied that more positions may be cut, as the process "will continue in the years to come", but added it did not believe services would be adversly affected.

Paul Farenden, NGH's acting chief executive at the time, said in April last year that savings were having to be made because "for the first time we are seeing a decrease rather than an increase in the amount of funding we receive".

Michael Ellis, MP for Northampton North, said the redundancies and associated savings may not be a bad thing.

He said "The amount in the redundancy packages does seem high but you do have to look at how much the hospital will save in wages in coming years.

"I imagine staff will have noticed inefficiency at NGH over the years and, as long as it doesn't affect frontline services, cutting that down is a good thing."

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'How Jade Goody's death saved me'

Claire Millward was told by doctors she was fine despite suffering cancer

A MOTHER FRom Northampton whose incorrect cancer test results almost killed her, only insisted on a life-saving one after Jade Goody's fatal illness.

Claire Millward, aged 37, from Delapre, endured a string of errors in tests for cancer that had doctors believing she was fine.

In fact, by the time she insisted on a smear test at her GP surgery in February 2008, before she was due one, NGH could have spotted the early signs of cervical cancer in tests three and five years before.

And when the news finally came, she claims the hospital told her she had ovarian cancer, which has a survival rate four times less than cervical, leading her to believe for two weeks she faced almost certain death.

She then had a needless hysterectomy, robbing her of the chance to have more children when she and husband Carl were trying for a brother or sister for Jamie, now aged eight.

Harvey Ingram solicitors, in Leicester, have now forced the hospital to admit the cancer could have been treated earlier and won £50,000 compensation.

Claire, who is now all clear, said: "When I went for the smear test in February 2008, my mother had just died of cancer and then it was all over the news about [TV star] Jade Goody's cervical cancer.

"I'm not normally a pushy person, but something in me made me say to the receptionist I wasn't leaving until I got an emergency test booked.

"I'm so glad I did, if not I would have been dead by June.

"If nothing else comes of my story I want to encourage people to have a smear test that might save your life, like Jade Goody saved mine."

Smear procedures have been reviewed

BOSSES at Northampton General Hospital say smear test errors are very rare.

A spokesman said: "We have apologised to Mrs Millward for the failings.

"We accept that, regrettably, those smears were incorrectly reported and that this may have contributed to a delayed diagnosis of glandular neoplasia. We are truly sorry for those errors.

"We carry out thousands of cervical smear tests annually, and we would like to reassure all our patients that this is a most exceptional case.

"Nevertheless we are determined to learn from it and we have reviewed our procedures to ensure there is no recurrence of the failings experienced by Mrs Millward."

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'Banned' slogan is here to stay, says unrepentant Sofa King man

Mark Kypta, who owns Sofa King, claims trade has gone up since the row over his slogan

A FURNITURE retailer has vowed to continue using his cheeky strapline – despite it being banned from newspaper advertising.

Mark Kypta owns The Sofa King in Far Cotton, Northampton and coined the strapline "Where the prices are Sofa King low" when he launched the business 10 years ago.

The slogan appears above The Sofa King showroom and on the firm's delivery vans.

However, in August last year three readers complained to the Advertising Standards Authority (ASA) about an advert in the Northampton Herald & Post, which used the expression: "Where the prices are Sofa King low".

In its written judgement, the ASA ruled the advert could be interpreted as using a derivative of a swear word and was therefore "likely to cause serious or widespread offence" and banned it.

Mr Kypta, aged 42, appealed but despite being asked to reconsider its verdict by Sir Hayden Phillips, the Independent Adjudicator, the ASA announced yesterday that it had upheld its earlier decision.

Father-of-one Mark said: "I 100 per cent disagree with their decision butI will abide by the ASA ruling and I won't re-run the advert.

"But I will never drop the slogan. It is a part of the business's DNA and people love it.

"My focus is on businsess and expanding the business, and continuing to do what I do, selling low price sofas."

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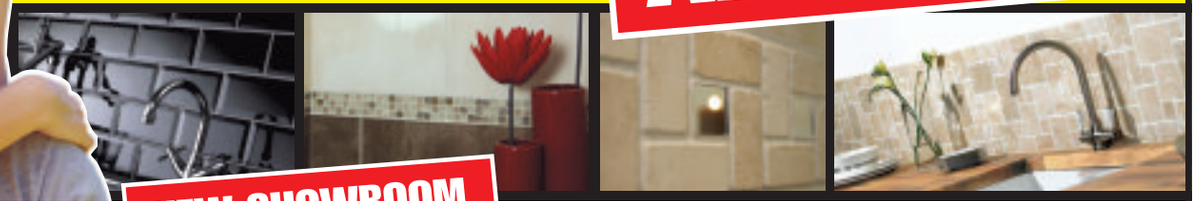

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It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Trevor Skidmore feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service the Northampton, Kettering, Wellingborough & Corby areas and Trevor is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Trevor a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!

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Queen back in the county after more than a decade

THOUSANDS of people lined the streets of Corby yesterday as The Queen visited Northamptonshire for the first time in more than a decade.

She arrived for a whistle-stop tour of the Corby Cube and the town's international swimming pool.

Her Majesty's first port of call was the swimming pool where she was greeted by dignitaries including the High Sheriff of Northamptonshire, John Townsend, Corby MP, Louise Mensch, and police Chief Constable, Adrian Lee.

Later, inside The Cube, she was entertained by local singers and musicians and enjoyed displays of Scottish and Irish dancing.

styles vary per store

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Museum to mark Battle of Naseby to cost £3.5m

WORK to build a museum of international significance at the Battle of Naseby site in Northamptonshire could start next year.

Historians who have been working on plans to build a £3.5 million museum on the site for a number of years launched their fund-raising campaign this week.

It is hoped that through public donations and grants from organisations such as the National Lottery, they will have secured enough money to start work on the project by the end of 2013.

Naseby expert, Martin Marix Evans, said: "If we're successful in securing grants, we hope to start on site in late 2013 or early 2014 and we'll probably be able to open in 2015 or 2016."

The museum will be spread across several buildings which will each tell a separate piece of the Naseby story.

Displays will include historic items found on the battlefield, examples of weapons and armour from the 17th century and contemporary reports of the battle.

Mr Marix Evans said: "We'll tell the whole story of the battle, including how people got to Naseby and what they did.

"The idea is to create a building that our ancestors could walk into and feel at home, even though it's going to be a bang up to date, modern building."

The museum has been designed by architect Jon Courtney-Thompson, who is also a civil war battle re-enactor.

He said: "Naseby is an internationally significant place and everyone is totally committed to the museum.

"It's what Naseby deserves and the whole community will benefit from it."

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Entertainment

Underground world of chaos

Ery Nzaramba as Dionysus inThe Bacchae *Photo by Robert Day*

THE Royal & Derngate continues its Festival Of Chaos with the staging of two classic plays.
Both plays, Euripides' Greek tragedy, The Bacchae, and Blood Wedding, have been re-invented into new contemporary versions.
The Bacchae is being staged in a disused print room of the Chronicle & Echo's town centre offices, and Blood Wedding is on the Royal stage.
The Bacchae takes audiences into the underbelly of a modern city built on money and greed, where a riotous underground world is emerging.
In the new version of Federico García Lorca's Blood Wedding, the spotlight is thrown on a close-knit community in rural Spain, where a long-term feud between two warring households simmers under the burning sun.
The productions are performed in rotation by the same company of actors, and are directed by the Royal & Derngate's artistic director, Laurie Sansom.
To check out the performance schedule for The Bacchae and Blood Wedding or to book tickets, call Royal & Derngate Box Office on 01604 624811 or visit www.royalandderngate.co.uk

TV star Denise gets into some strange habits

DIVINE musical, Sister Act, is at Milton Keynes Theatre this week.
Based on the hit film of the same name, it tells the tale of disco diva, Deloris Van Cartier, who witnesses a murder, and is put in protective custody in the one place the cops are sure she won't be found... a convent.
The show stars Coronation Street's Denise Black as Mother Superior, and Brookside favourite, Michael Starke as Monsignor O'Hara, with Cynthia Erivo as nun-on-the-run, Deloris Van Cartier.
The show runs until Saturday, June 30. Tickets cost £15 to £45.
It can be seen from Monday to Saturday at 7.30pm, and on Wednesday and Saturday matinees at 2.30pm.
To book tickets call Milton Keynes Theatre Box Office on 0844 871 7652 or visit the website www.atgtickets.com/miltonkeynes

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TJP146/M21

Entertainment

Wild and woolly animals

THINGS have started turning very woolly as everyone from school pupils to lone crochet artists have been seizing their needles for a "guerrilla knitting" project.

Pupils at Sir Christopher Hatton School in Wellingborough have been among the many knitters producing creations to go on show in Northampton next month.

Weird and wonderful knitted pieces ranging from woolly pigeons in Northampton to knitted wickets at the Northamptonshire Cricket Ground and tails and ears for street furniture will be randomly appearing in public places to surprise onlookers.

The organisers of the scheme, which is supported by Northamptonshire County Council, are known as Noho's Secret Knitters and many expert and amateur knitters have been recruited to take on various projects.

These include the NoHo Knitters, the Northampton Ravelry Group and Northampton Town Roses WI.

The project has been devised to coincide with artist Shauna Richardson's Lionheart Project, a London 2012 Cultural Olympiad touring display comprised of three giant, hand-crocheted lions, which will appear in Northampton's Market Square between July 11-19.

One of the "secret" knitters, explained: "It is an opportunity to encourage the community to get involved.

"It is basically knitted or crocheted graffiti.

"We have lots of pigeons, animals and other things.

"We have been giving out free crochet yarn and needles and putting some events on to set people off.

"People make things and bring them back to us.

"We are going to be cross stitching the new aviary in Northampton and we will be doing something at the cricket ground too."

To find out more information, log on to www.facebook.com/NohoNeedsKnitters

Pupils at Sir Christopher Hatton School, Wellingborough, including Kyrah-Celeste Reddan, 15 have been taking part in a county knitting project

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Thursday, June 21, 2012

Focus on fuel consumption makes it a rival for a diesel

AMAZING but true, the fine driving Ford Focus is now at its finest with the smallest engine in the range. And driven gently, you'll be saving the planet while having fun.

Until recently, diesel power looked like the conventional answer to better fuel figures; simpler and cheaper than adding batteries and electric motors.

More sure of a result, too.

But with tough new Euro laws about tail-pipe pollution on the near horizon it's going to be expensive to make diesels comply, so car makers are turning back to petrol power.

Now, from Ford's European engine design centre in deepest Essex, comes perhaps the most convincing case yet that there's life left in petrol.

With a mere three cylinders (four is the usual minimum) and a capacity of just one litre, this is a little engine for sure, taking up less space and weighing lots less than the 1.6-litre lump it's designed to make redundant.

It also posts diesel-like economy figures in the official Euro tests every new car has to endure. All is not what it seems when the rules have to be observed.

The hi-tech content of the new engine (with an expensive turbocharger included) means you'll pay £250 extra for the little 'un under the bonnet, compared to the current 1.6 which produces the same power but does less well in the official economy tests.

It doesn't take long (well, moving off from rest will do it) to realise Ford's bevy of Essex engineers have come up with a gem.

It sounds eager in a distant and charmingly thrummy way and any fears that the tiny powerplant might shake itself to pieces is banished as you engage the clutch and pull smoothly away.

With the turbo puffing fuel and air into the engine from low revs, you'd never believe there was an engine up front that some motorcyclists would consider insultingly small.

It pulls like a terrier hanging on to a bone and the new lightness up front means the Focus, already a nimble car, gains a delightful edge of added eagerness when you turn the wheel for a corner.

This latest version of the Focus has been gently chided for a lack of driving delight compared to earlier models.

If that was true, it is no more with this minimally-engined model.

But we must now cut to the chase; driving delight is but an incidental in this car's battery of pluses.

It exists to make a gallon of petrol go a long way, and as closely matched to a diesel as possible.

Good for Ford, there was an old-engined 1.6-litre petrol model available for a drive before jumping into the new baby.

First impressions, as always, were of a car designed to please a keen driver.

At the end of the shortish test the trip computer showed I'd managed 38mpg over a mix of country roads and edge-of-town work, none of it good at making the most of the contents of the tank.

Switching into the new 1.0-litre machine, it was hard not to enjoy its delights, although even at modest speed the way it answers the helm will make any driving enthusiast smile.

And at the end of the same test route.... the same answer on the dash; 38mpg.

I don't doubt that with restraint that figure will improve, perhaps greatly.

As it stands I need longer with the car; not a hardship and it's something I look forward to.

The future may have arrived. I hope so.

Design changes have been made by Ford to allow the petrol engine to obtain a miles-per-gallon figure that comes close to the traditional diesel engine, and with less tailpipe emissions

Fact file

Ford Focus Zetec 1.0T 125PS Eco-boost
PRICE: £17,945
DRIVETRAIN: 1.0 litre 123bhp petrol engine, 6-speed gearbox
PERFORMANCE: Top speed 120mph; 0-62mph 11.3 seconds
ECONOMY: Euro average 56.5mpg
CO2 114g/km road tax £0 first year, then £30
SIZE: 4358mm long 1823mm wide
SAFETY EuroNCAP: 5 stars
INSURANCE Group: 14
WARRANTY: Three years or 60,000 miles

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MERCEDES-BENZ C CLASS C200 KOMPRESSOR COUPE AUTOMATIC 2002 02 REG. 1 previous owner from new. full service history. only 59,000 miles. air conditioning / duel climate control. full electric panoramic sunroof. alloy wheels. radio / cd player. multi function steering wheel. esp / traction control. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. electric heated folding mirrors. cruise control. front fog lights. remote central locking / alarm. front and rear mud flaps. front and rear parking sensors. front centre armrest. metallic silver. great looking car. very well looked after. excellent condition. very low miles **ONLY £3,995**

HONDA ACCORD 2.2 CDTI EXECUTIVE ESTATE DIESEL 5 DOOR 2005 05 REG. 2 previous owners from new. full service history. touch screen factory fit sat nav. air conditioning / climate control. upgraded alloy wheels. radio / cd player. power steering. abs brakes. front and rear electric windows. electric heated mirrors. remote central locking / alarm. front fog lights. roof rails. multi function steering wheel. front centre armrest. metallic black with full black leather interior. heated seats. very good condition. mot till april 2013. smart, useful, roomy estate..... **ONLY £3,995**

RENAULT CLIO 1.4 DYNAMIQUE 16V 2006 06 REG. new shape. only 46,000 miles. full service history 1 previous from new. air conditioning. dynamique s alloy wheels. radio / cd player. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. isofix child seat system. front fog lights. rain sensors. light sensors. electric heated mirrors. see me home lights. stunning metallic burnt orange. must see..... **ONLY £3,995**

FORD FIESTA 1.6 ZETEC S TDCI DIESEL 3 DOOR HATCHBACK 2005 05 REG. 1 previous owner from new. full service history (last full service in april 2012). only 65,000 miles. air conditioning. alloy wheels. radio / cd player. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. front fog lights. sports interior. stunning bright red. only £20 per year road tax. mot till may 2013. taxed till april 2013. superb condition. great mpg ..... **ONLY £4,495**

FORD FIESTA 1.6 ZETEC S LIMITED EDITION ANNIVERSARY NUMBER 223 3 DOOR HATCHBACK 2007 07 REG. 1 owner from new. full service history. only 72,000 miles. air conditioning. bright yellow with chequered roof. full black leather interior. alloy wheels. radio / cd player with i-pod connector. electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. electric mirrors. power steering abs brakes. front fog lights. drivers seat height adjustment. front and rear spoilers. parking sensors. superb condition. very well looked after. only 1 owner. great price. not many yellow ones available. mot till march 2013. private plate is included if you want it worth around £300 ONLY £4,995 ..... **ONLY £4,995**

MINI 1.6 COOPER 3 DOOR HATCHBACK 2005 05 REG. only 77,000 miles. full service history. lady owned. air conditioning. 5 star rocket alloy wheels. radio / cd player with boost. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. electric mirrors. heated mirrors and washer jets. trip computer. front fog lights. drivers seat height adjustment. metallic british racing green. mot till may 2013. superb condition. ..... **ONLY £4,995**

RENAULT GRAND SCENIC 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE 5 DOOR 7 SEATER 2007 07 REG. only 27,000 miles. full service history. 1 previous owner from new. air conditioning. alloy wheels. radio / cd player. power steering. abs brakes. front and rear electric windows. electric mirrors. remote central locking / alarm. child rear sun blinds. isofix child seat system. front fog lights. rain sensors. light sensors. 6 speed gearbox. driver seat height adjustment. metallic champagne. mot till april 2013. superb condition. very low miles. smart, useful, roomy mpv. ..... **ONLY £4,995**

FIAT BRAVO 1.4 ACTIVE 5 DOOR HATCHBACK 2008 08 REG. only 30,000 miles. full service history. 2 previous owners from new. air conditioning. alloy wheels. multi cd player. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. 6 speed gearbox. front fog lights. electric heated mirrors. front centre armrest. metallic grey. mot till april 2013. low cost tax. superb condition. great looking car. ..... **ONLY £5,495**

VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 2.0 GT TDI 140 BHP 5 DOOR HATCHBACK 2004 04 REG. new shape. only 80,000 miles. service history. 1 previous owner from new. air conditioning / duel climate control. factory fit sat nav. alloy wheels. radio / cd player. 6 speed gearbox. esp / traction control. rain sensors. light sensors. computer. power steering. abs brakes. front and rear electric windows. electric heated mirrors. remote central locking / alarm. front fog lights. isofix child seat system. drivers seat height adjustment. front fog lights. metallic grey. very good condition. taxed and mot'd ..... **ONLY £5,495**

BMW 1 SERIES 120D SPORT 5 DOOR HATCHBACK 2004 54 REG. full service history. only 92,000 miles. air conditioning / duel climate control. cruise control. dynamic traction control. alloy wheels. radio / cd player with i-pod connector. power steering. abs brakes. front and rear electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. electric heated mirrors. rain sensors. light sensors. front fog lights. rear parking sensors. 6 speed gearbox. front centre armrest. trip computer. isofix child seat system. metallic steel grey with half leather interior. excellent condition. very well maintained ..... **ONLY £5,995**

AUDI A3 TDI SPECIAL EDITION SPORTBACK 2007 56 REG. 5 door hatchback. 1 previous owner from new. full service history. only 96,000 miles. air conditioning/ climate control. alloy wheels. radio/cd player. traction control. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. electric heated mirrors. drivers seat height adjustment. Isofix child seat system. multiple airbags. metallic silver. mot till march 2013. taxed till end of February 2013. excellent condition. great mpg ..... **ONLY £6,295**

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 TWINTOP AIR COUPE CABRIOLET 2008 08 REG. only 39,000 miles. full service history. 1 previous owner from new. electric roof. air conditioning. rear parking sensors. radio / cd player. power steering. abs brakes. front and rear electric windows. electric heated mirrors. remote central locking / alarm with 2 keys. front fog lights. drivers seat height adjustment. sports seats. metallic black. mot till july 2013. superb condition. very low miles. ..... **ONLY £6,495**

FORD FIESTA 1.6 TITANIUM TDCI 5 DOOR HATCHBACK 2008 58 REG. full ford service history. 1 previous owners from new. only 71,000 miles. air conditioning / climate control. cruise control. alloy wheels. radio / cd player with i-pod connector. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. electric heated folding mirrors. heated front screen. remote central locking / alarm. rear spoiler. multi function steering wheel. drivers seat height adjustment. factory fit privacy glass. front fog lights. auto lights. auto wipers. metallic avalon. superb condition. taxed till end of december 2012. great mpg. low cost tax only £20 per year. great value. very well maintained ..... **ONLY £6,495**

HONDA CIVIC 1.8 EX I V-TEC 5 DOOR HATCHBACK 2006 06 REG. 1 private owner from new. only 38,000 miles. full service history. factory fit sat nav. air conditioning / climate control. alloy wheels. cruise control. multi function steering wheel. radio / 6 multi cd player. traction control. rain sensors. light sensors. power steering. abs brakes. front and rear electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. electric heated folding mirrors. drivers seat height adjustment. rear headrests. front and rear mud flaps. front fog lights. headlamp wash. isofix child seat system. front centre armrest. computer. 6 speed gearbox. metallic blue. outstanding condition. absolutely cherished. serviced at 7,000, 16,000, 28,000 and 36,000 miles. mot till may 2013. guaranteed you will not see better. all original handbooks, service book and manuals..... **ONLY £6,995**

PORSCHE BOXSTER 3.2 S 2 DOOR CONVERTIBLE 2001 Y REG (BUT SOLD WITH PRIVATE PLATE Y33BOX). full service history. only 97,000 miles. metallic blue with full black embossed leather interior. air conditioning / climate control. alloy wheels. radio / cd player. computer. electric hood. matching blue roof. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. headlamp wash. wind deflector. electric seats. drivers seat height adjustment. 6 speed gearbox. mot till april 2013. superb condition. great value ..... **ONLY £6,995**

LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2.0 TD4 DIESEL 4 X 4 5 DOOR 2006 06 REG. full service history. only 74,000 miles. air conditioning. alloy wheels. radio / cd player. traction control. power steering. abs brakes. front and rear electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. immobiliser. electric heated folding mirrors. front fog lights. roof rails. load cover. front centre armrest. privacy glass. front and rear mud flaps. light guards. metallic grey with half black leather interior. mot till march 2013. taxed till end of october 2012. 4 new tyres. superb condition. very well looked after 4x4..... **ONLY £7,495**

HONDA CIVIC 1.8 TYPE S 2007 07 REG. 3 door hatchback. 1 private owner from new. only 38,000 miles. full service history. air conditioning. alloy wheels. radio / cd player. power steering. abs brakes. traction control. multi function steering wheel. sports interior. front fog lights. drivers information system. stunnig metallic blue. mot till march 2013. taxed. excellent condition. ..... **ONLY £7,995**

BMW 5 SERIES 520D 2.0 SE TOURING ESTATE AUTOMATIC TIPTRONIC 5 DOOR 2007 56 REG. 1 previous owner from new. full bmw service history. only 77,000 miles. factory fit sat nav. air conditioning. alloy wheels. front and rear parking sensors. radio / cd player. bi-xenon headlights. auto lights. auto wipers. dtc / traction control. cruise control. multi function steering wheel. front fog lights. front centre armrest. isofix child seat system. front and rear electric windows. electric heated mirrors. remote central locking / alarm. headlamp wash. roof rails. drivers seat height adjustment. load cover. metallic deep sea blue. outstanding condition. smart, useful, roomy estate. mot till february 2013. great value ..... **ONLY £8,995**

TOYOTA PREVIA 2.0 D-4D T - SPIRIT 2006 56 REG. 5 door 7 seater mpv. only 69,000 miles. full service history. 2 previous owners from new. air conditioning / climate control. electric sunroof. cruise control. multi function steering wheel. alloy wheels. radio / cd player. privacy glass. roof rails. front centre armrest. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. electric mirrors. remote central locking / alarm. rear spoiler. front fog lights. side sliding doors. isofix child seat system. drivers seat height adjustment. metallic silver. smart, useful, roomy mpv ..... **ONLY £8,995**

★ STAR BUY ★

1 OWNER FROM NEW, 58,000 MILES, FMSH

MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE 5 DOOR HATCHBACK 2007 56 REG. private owner from new. full mercedes service history. only 58,000 miles. air conditioning. radio / cd player. traction control. power steering. abs brakes. front and rear electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. steering wheel adjustment. front fog lights. drivers seat height adjustment. multi function steering wheel. beautiful metallic blue. fantastic 1 owner full main dealer service history car. great value ..... **ONLY £5,495**

FSH, AIR/CON, ELECTRIC HOOD, CD, ALLOYS

MINI 1.6 CONVERTIBLE 2007 07 REG. history. 2 previous owners from new. only 66,000 miles. air conditioning. electric roof. rear parking sensors. radio / cd player with boost. 5 star rocket alloy wheels. cooper s steering wheel and gear shift. heated mirrors and washer jets. pepper pack. electric windows. electric mirrors. remote central locking / alarm. front fog lights. drivers seat height adjustment. power steering. abs brakes. stunning white with half black leather interior. mot till may 2013. very good condition. great spec. ..... **ONLY £7,495**

1 OWNER, FULL SERVICE HISTORY, 36,000 MILES

RENAULT MEGANE 1.4 EXTREME II 2008 58 REG. owner from new. full renault service history including cambelt changed. air conditioning. radio / cd player. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. drivers seat height adjustment. metallic black. mot till june 2013. superb condition. very low miles ..... **ONLY £4,995**

FSH, AIR/CON, ALLOYS, CD, ELECTRIC ROOF

NISSAN MICRA 1.6 C+C SPORT CC COUPE CABRIOLET 2007 07 REG. 2 door convertible. 1 owner from new. only 65,000 miles. full service history. air conditioning. panoramic sunroof. alloy wheels. radio / cd player. power steering. abs brakes. electric roof. electric windows. electric mirrors. remote central locking / alarm. front fog lights. isofix child seat system. metallic silver. mot till june 2013. very good condition. great time to buy ..... **ONLY £4,295**

FULL SERVICE HISTORY, SUNROOF, AIR/CON

HONDA JAZZ 1.4 SE 5 DOOR HATCHBACK 2003 53 REG. only 56,000 miles. full service history. 1 previous owner from new. air conditioning. electric sunroof. power steering. abs brakes. radio / cd player. electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. electric heated mirrors. drivers seat height adjustment. metallic royal blue. very good condition. low miles..... **ONLY £3,495**

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Audi

AUDI TT QUATTRO (180 BHP)

02, 1.8, coupe, 92000 miles, silver, petrol, 2002, Beautiful Audi Sports car. Heated grey leather seats. Alloy wheels. Tax 30/09/2012. MOT 22/02/2013 £4,199 ono **Tel: 07827 291966**

2002 £4,199 ono

AUDI TT QUATTRO (180 BHP)

2002, Excellent condition ~ Manual, Petrol, 53,000 miles, Metallic Green. New cam belt, Leather seats, Air conditioning, ABS, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Driver & Passenger airbag, Sports seats, Traction control, Alarm, Full Service History.. £4,995 **Tel: 07876595226**

2002 £4,995

AUDI A3 1.9 TDI

3 door hatchback, diesel, blue,94500 miles, 5 seats, 12 months MoT, cambelt changed last service, CD player, air con, e/w, vgc.
Contact James on 07584251534

2005 £3500

Daewoo

Daewoo Lanos

1.4 SX, 1998, S reg, 3 door, only 62,000 miles, full service history, 2 owners, power steering, central locking, stereo, bright red, MoT Jan 13, Taxed, p/ex bargain to clear. Only £595
Tel:01604 626711(T)

1998 £595

BMW

BMW 530 SE AUTO

3.0, 4 door saloon, 99900 miles, blue, diesel, 2004, Cream leather, bluetooth, cruise,steptronic, electric front seats. Full year's MOT, full service history, taxed. Family car. No traders.. £5,995 **Tel: 01604845153**

2004 £5,995

BMW 320 D SE TOURING

53, 2.0, estate, 90000 miles, blue, diesel, 2004, Mot/Tax Feb 13 FSH CC Cruise, AW Parking Sensors, 6 CD Original Tool and First Aid Kit, Parrot Bluetooth, RCL Dog Guard Load Cover Armrest, Fogs Manuals Many new parts valet, superb. £4,895 ono **Tel: 07906620081**

2004 £4,895 ono

Land Rover

LANDROVER FREELANDER

2.0,TD4 Sport Diesel, 2006, 06 reg, 5 door, only 74,000 miles, FSH, air con alloys, cd, pas, abs, e/w, r/c/l, e/m, parking sensors, leather interior trim, metallic grey, fantastic 4x4. Has been cherised. Only £7495.
Tel: 01604 626711 (T)

2006 £7495

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Citroen

CITROEN XSARA PICASSO DESIRE 110

06, 1.6, estate, 55500 miles, grey, diesel, 2006, T&T. 12 month transferable warranty. Aircon, Service History. Exc condition. £4,750 **Tel: 07597 232000**

2006 **£4,750**

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6

LS, 5 door hatchback, petrol, green, 1997, 136608 miles, long MOT December 2012, electric windows, Radio/CD Player. Good reliable car. Photograph for reference purposes only £400 ono **Tel:01604 493853**

1997 **£400 ono**

Daihatsu

DAIHATSU CHARADE SL

03, 1.0, 5 door hatchback, 75K miles, blue, petrol, 2003, EW / AC / EM / Stereo / Airbags / MOT and Taxed (£30 a year road tax!) Good condition and very economical to run.. £1,250 ono **Tel: 07887742830**

2003 **£1,250 ono**

Fiat

Fiat Punto Sport

1242cc W reg, metallic blue, 5 months tax, MoT Aug 2012. £600 ono
Tel:07809 629804

£600 ono

Fiat

FIAT PUNTO

1.2, GREEN,x reg ABS, A/B, alloys, C/L, Immobiliser, MOT, P/A/S, F/S/R, Tax, FULL 12 MTHS mot taxed to october. £695 ono
Tel:07729 770607

£695 ono

Ford

FORD FIESTA GHIA 16V

V, 1.2, 5 door hatchback, 121,609 (Replaced Eng) miles, silver, petrol, 1999, a/c,c/l,p/s, 12 Month MOT, 6 Month Tax. Replaced Engine with 35,000 Miles.. £1,050 ono
Tel: 01604 464067

1999 **£1,050 ono**

Ford Fusion Very low mileage

2 Climate, 1.4 5 door, Metallic Blue, 2005 55 reg, 25000 miles, ABS, A/B, A/C, alarm, CD, C/L, E/M, E/W, F/S/H, H/F/W, Immobiliser, MOT, 1 prev owner, P/A/S, stereo, Tax, Superb condition. Very low mileage. £3995
Tel:01604 626711(T)

2005 **£3995**

Ford Fiesta

1.6, Zetec S Anniversary, no 223 of 1000 made. 2007, 07 reg, 1 owner, FSH, air con, alloys, cd, front rear spoilers, pas, abs, e/w, r/c/l, front fogs, bright yellow with full black leather interior, MoT March 13. Only £4795.
Tel: 01604 626711 (T)

2007 **£4795**

Ford Fiesta

Zetec S, TDCi, Diesel, 2005, 05 reg, only 65,000 miles, full service history, air con, alloys, cd, pas, abs, e/w, r/c/l, e/m, bright red, MoT May 2013, taxed May 13, only £30 a year road tax. Only £4495.
Tel: 01604 626711 (T)

2005 **£4495**

FORD MONDEO ZETEC 1.8

5 Door Hatchback, Petrol, 68000 miles, Service history Silver, Clean condition
Tel: 07952 682534

2002 **£875 ono**

Contact us... 01604 515000 www.northamptonchron.co.uk
Northampton Mercury Northampton Chronicle & Echo

FORD FOCUS LX

Y, 1.8, 5 door hatchback, blue, petrol, 2001, Ford Focus 1.8 2001, Fantastic Runner, Just had new coil pack, 12 MONTHS M.O.T Taxed till end of aug, Fully Loaded with A/c could accept part X. £1,250 ono
Tel: 07976754949

2001 **£1,250 ono**

FORD FOCUS STYLE 1.6, 5 door hatchback, 28,000 miles, petrol, 2008, Taxed, MOT, A/C, MP3/CD, FSH, v good cond. £5,500 Tel: 01604 451612

2008 **£5,500**

FORD FOCUS ZETEC 53, 1.6, 3 door hatchback, 41500 miles, blue, petrol, 2003, 6 months tax & MOT. £1,775 ono Tel: 01327 830634

2003 **£1,775 ono**

Mini

White Mini One Convertible

2007, 07 reg, 1 previous owner, full service history, only 66,000 miles, air con, alloys, cd, pepper pack, electric roof,e/w, r/c/l, e/m, pas, abs, white with half black leather interior. Only £7495
Tel: 01604 626711(T)

2007 **£7495**

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CAR OF THE WEEK

55 SUZUKI ALTO 1.1 GL 5 DOOR HATCHBACK, only 35,000 miles, full Suzuki service history, taxed feb 2013, metallic blue, power steering, cd player, 1 local owner from new, road tax only £30 a year **£2495**

04 MERCEDES-BENZ SL350 2 DOOR CONVETIBLE, metallic black paintwork with full cream leather interior, memory seats, heated seats, 20 inch AMG alloys, factory fitted sat nav, absolutely stunning, an absolute must at only **£13,495**

04 HYUNDAI TUSCON 2.0 CRDI TURBO DIESEL 5 DOOR 4X4, metallic blue over grey, full leather interior, climate control, sunroof, 63,000 miles, full service history, mot & feb 2013, chrome steps, alloys, cd, power steering, towbar electrics, great value 4x4 ..... **SOLD**

06 FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC 5 DOOR HATCHBACK, finished in panther black paintwork, only 38,000 miles from new with full service history, power steering, electric windows, remote central locking, alloy wheels, electric mirrors, cd player, absolutely stunning **£4495**

06 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SXI TWINPORT 5 DOOR HATCHBACK, metallic black, only 55,000 miles, full Vauxhall service history, power steering, electric windows, air conditioning, alloys, sports trim, absolutely stunning example ..... **SOLD**

53 DAIHATSU COPEN 800CC 2 DOOR CONVERTIBLE, black paintwork with red leather seats, full service history, cheap tax & insurance, stunning car **£3995**

05 SKODA FABIA 1.2 CLASSIC 5 DOOR HATCHBACK, in silver, only 39,000 miles, full service history, 1 previous owner, air conditioning, electric windows, power steering, remote central locking, low cost tax & insurance..... **SOLD**

02 FORD GALAXY 1.9 TURBO DIESEL LX 5 DOOR 7 SEATER MPV, only 102,000 miles, metallic blue paintwork, full service history, power steering, cd player, electric windows, remote central locking, air conditioning, mot march 2013, taxed, great family 7 seater for just **£3295**

07 CHEVROLET KALOS SE 1.2 5 DOOR HATCHBACK, in black, only 32,000 miles, full service history, company + 1 lady owner from new, cd player, air conditioning, electric windows, power steering, great value..... **£2995**

53 HONDA CIVIC 1.6 SE EXECUTIVE 5 DOOR HATCHBACK, silver, full service history, leather interior, air conditioning, alloys, electric windows, power steering, remote central locking, electric roof, great spec..... **£2795**

P RANGE ROVER 4.6 HSE PETROL 5 DOOR HATCHBACK, metallic green paintwork, 121,000 miles, full history file, alloy wheels, electric windows, power steering, electric mirrors, mot dec 2012, long tax..... **£2495**

02 PEUGEOT 307 2.0 HDI SE ESTATE, 82,000 miles, full service history, panoramic sunroof, alloys, cd player, in silver, 12 months mot, excellent economical family estate car ..... **SOLD**

03 FIAT PUNTO 1.2 ACTIVE 3 DOOR HATCHBACK, 62,000 miles from new, 1 owner from new, finished in bright red paintwork, full service history, cd player, city steering, electric windows, central locking, long mot, economical to tax & insure..... **SOLD**

01 FORD FOCUS 1.8 ZETEC 5 DOOR HATCHBACK, 86,000 miles, mot & tax Feb 2013, power steering, cd player, remote central locking, alloys, front fogs, very clean for the age **£1795**

T HONDA CRV, 89,000 miles fully documented service history from new, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, cd player, long mot & tax, air conditioning, alloys, metallic blue paintwork..... **£1495**

04 DAEWOO TACUMA 1.6 CDX MPV, 5 DOOR HATCHBACK, metallic red paintwork, 53,000 miles, service history, electric windows, central locking, power steering, electric mirrors, cd player..... **£1295**

AUTOMATIC SECTION

07 SUZUKI JIMNY 1.3 VVTI+ AUTOMATIC 3 DOOR, only 38,000 miles, full service history, air conditioning, alloy wheels, half leather, side steps, cd player, red over silver metallic paintwork, remote central locking, electric windows, power steering, rare automatic 4x4 ..... **£7295**

07 FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTOMATIC 5 DOOR HATCHBACK, in metallic red, 46,000 miles, full dealer service history with service invoices present, air conditioning, power steering, alloys, colour coded, face lift model, remote central locking, electric windows, electric mirrors, great spec for just..... **£4795**

54 MERCEDES-BENZ C270 AUTOMATIC AVENTGARDE SE TURBO DIESEL SE, full service history, metallic black, power steering, electric windows, remote central locking, factory fitted sat nav, leather seats, high spec, real pleasure to drive **£4795**

03 NISSAN MICRA 1.2 S 5 DOOR AUTOMATIC, metallic paintwork, only 49,000 miles, full Nissan service history, power steering, electric windows, cd player, remote central locking, great value small automatic..... **£2995**

53 NISSAN ALMERA TINO SE AUTOMATIC, full service history, air conditioning, electric sunroof, alloys, cd player, 1 previous owner, 71,000 miles, rear parking aids, electric windows..... **SOLD**

53 FORD FUSION 1.4 III AUTO 5 DOOR, metallic grey paintwork, 68,000 miles, full service history, power steering, electric windows, remote central locking, air conditioning, cd player, great small automatic..... **£2495**

PART EXCHANGE SECTION

01 FORD FOCUS 1.8 TURBO DIESEL 5 DOOR HATCHBACK, metallic blue, cd player, alloys, power steering, just serviced and cambelt change, long mot & tax ..... **SOLD**

W FORD KA 1.3 3 DOOR HATCHBACK, in red, 53,000 miles, colour coded, power steering, great 1st car..... **SOLD**

R HYUNDAI ATOS 1.0 SE, only 59,000 miles, full service history, 12 months MOT, cheap tax & insurance..... **SOLD**

COMMERCIAL SECTION

02 FORD TRANSIT 2.4 TURBO DIESEL TWIN WHEEL 17 SEATER MINIBUS, only 70,000 miles, full dealer service history, mot may 2013, taxed November 2012, in white..... **SOLD**

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Honda

HONDA HR-V 1.6

AUTOMATIC, 3 door hatchback, petrol, Metallic silver, 2000, 100,000 miles, air CoN, CD player, central locking, electronic windows, long MOT, power assisted steering. Photo for reference only **Tel 01604 589716 OR 07757 014230**

2000 £1495 ono

HONDA ACCORD 2.0 VTEC SE

5 door hatchback, petrol, silver, 2001, 5 months mot & tax, 70,400 miles, built in sat nav & dvd player, new brakes & timing belt.

Tel: 07917 241044

2001 £1650

Honda Jazz

1.4 SE, 2003, 53 reg, 5 door, only 56,000 miles, full service history, 1 previous owner from new, air con, electric sunroof, pas, abs, e/w, r/c/l, alarm, e/h/m, metallic blue. Superb only £3495

Tel: 01604 626711(T)

2003 £3495

Saab

SAAB 9-5 2.3

VECTOR AUTO, estate, petrol, grey, 96000 miles, F/S/H, 4 New Tyres, Very reliable, 8 months MOT, some Tax.(pic for ref only) **Tel:01536 515139**

2001 £1950 ono

SAAB 9-3

S, 2.0, convertible, 145K miles, silver, petrol, 1998, RELIABLE CONVERTIBLE ELEC HOOD FULL LEATHER SAFETY CHECK MOT TEST VALETED MOT06-2013 TAX11-2012 ABS 2dr PAS ABS CD HEM IMOB Alarm ALLOYS low profile TYRES. £1,450 ono **Tel: 07882138169**

1998 £1,450 ono

Vauxhall

VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB

16V, 1.2 (C shape) 3 dr hatch, petrol, blue, 2000, 93000 miles, pas, Mot 2/13, tax end July, vgc in/out, cheap tax/ins £995 ono **Tel:07979 804422**

£995 ono 2000

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16V convertible. 2007, petrol, red/silver, black leather heated seats. 2 seats, ABS, A/B, A/C, alarm, alloys, CD, C/L, E/M, E/W, F/S/H, MOT, P/A/S, Foldaway hard top, good condition. £5300 **Tel:01933 665439**

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2006 £3,200 ono

MAZDA RX-8 231 PS 2.6, coupe, 110,000 miles, silver, petrol, 2004, black leather ,sunroof, alloy wheels. £2,500 ono Tel: 07927003751

2004 £2,500 ono

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2004 £3750 ono

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2006 £4495

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2003 £3,650 ono

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Tel:01536 742482

1999 £2300 ono

Rover

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1998 £400 ono

Vauxhall

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2004 £2795

Volkswagen

VOLKSWAGEN TOURAN S TDI

56, 1.9, mpv, 55500 miles, blue, diesel, 2007, 1896cc, Tax (end Oct 2012), MOT(end Nov 2012), FSH, AC, alloys, clean, CD, cruise-control, ESP, E/W,. £7,700 **Tel: 07971 968 990 Mkt Harboro**

2007 £7,700

VOLKSWAGEN POLO S

52, 1.2, 5 door hatchback, 30,100 miles, silver, petrol, 2002, 1 Lady owner from new, brilliant condition, air con, E/W, MOT- Oct 2012, 30K miles ONLY and Service History. Viewing required to appreciate.. £2,795 ono **Tel: 07581301761**

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2003 £8,250

Renault

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04, 1.4, 5 door hatchback, 37300 miles, red, petrol, 2004, grey cloth trim,10 months mot a/c cd good condition. £2,650 ono **Tel: 07890225634**

2004 £2,650 ono

VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 16V CLUB 1.6, 74000 miles, petrol, 2003, 12 mths MOT & 6 mths TAX. £1,999 ono **Tel:** 07790124250

2003 £1,999 ono

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2000 £1450 ono

VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S TDI 1.9, 5 door hatchback, 130,000 miles, green, diesel, 1998, excellent runner. £1,250 **Tel: 07840854671**

1998 £1,250

VOLKSWAGEN POLO

E, 1.2 3 door hatchback, petrol, black, 2005, 58000 miles, 5 seats, MOT, Tax, Good condition, 2 lady owners. £2500

Tel:01908 613461 07743333065

2005 £2500

VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.4 CL 88045 miles, green, petrol, 1996, Tax end of June. Mot til Dec. £300 **Tel: 01604 510178**

1996 £300

Boats & Equipment

HONDA ACCORD

1.8 53,000 MOT 15/07/2013, Taxed, Black, Full stamp service history.Manual, PS, EW, ABS, AC, CL,

Tel 07737806876

£1295 2001

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2005 £2,995 ono

PEUGEOT 306 MERIDIAN X, 1.4, 5 door hatchback, 86,000 miles, blue, petrol, 2000, £1,350 ono Tel: 07731332127

2000 £1,350 ono

RENAULT ESPACE

EXPRESSION DCI, 1.9 mpv, diesel, grey, 2004 53 reg, A/B, A/C, alarm, alloys, CD, C/L, E/M, Immobiliser, MOT, multi CD, P/A/S, Tax, Remote control stereo. TV & DVD player.. £3500 ono

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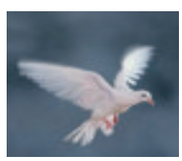
Obituaries

FARRELL
Rita

Beloved Sister to Cliff and Steph, Wonderful Auntie to Andy, Michelle Danielle and Lucy.

Treasured memories of one of the best, loved and remembered always
xxx



Obituaries

FARRELL
(Nee Coulton)
Rita

Passed away June 4th. Dearest Sister to Pat, Billy. Aunt to Natalie, Tracy, Angela and families.

Memories are golden, treasured for ever, loving you always, forget you never.

HANCOCK — Harold
Passed peacefully away, one of life's Gentlemen. We will miss you 'H'. Jeff, Vera and all the family.

Obituaries

HANCOCK — Harold
My good friend and companion. A true 'Jimmys Ender' you and your family are part of the fabric of my life. Yours was a long life well lived, a Man of wit and wisdom and to me you represented the very best of British. So rest in peace old pal, God will know how much you deserve it. Heartfelt sympathy to Mick and Jo. Ade.

HUGHES
George Leonard

Loving Husband of Georgina, Father of Debra, Grandfather of Nathanial, Great-Grandfather of Eva.

Funeral Service 12.30pm Wednesday 20th June 2012, Milton Crematorium, all friends welcome. Will be sadly missed by his family. Family flowers only. Donations please for Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance to be sent to B. Hollowell & Son.

SAMBROOKS — Raymond George, 1923-17 June 2012.
Sadly missed by big brother Ronald "Son" and family. No more suffering.

Obituaries

LINE
Norman James

Passed away Sat 9th June
at Southfields House.
Loving Husband of Betty.
Rest in Peace now.
I will miss you.
-xx-
Loving Dad to
Sheralyn, Nicola & Richard.
Father-in-law to
Chris, Richard
Special Grandad to
Lauren, Jess, Kirsty, Lewis, Jamie and Alex.
Sleep Peacefully
We will miss you so much
-xx-
Funeral to be held on
26/06/2012 at 1.15pm
at Milton Crematorium.
Family flowers only.
Any donations should be forwarded to
Ann Bonham & Son
for Alzheimers & Southfield Residential Home.

In Memoriam

ALIBONE
Neil

Cherished Memories.

Miss you my darling Husband Neil.
All my love, your loving Wife Ruby and Gail & Brian, Bob & Janet and families x

BAZELEY
Geraldine

Died 29th June 2007.
Gerry, we miss you so much, especially all the good times we had together.
Jim and your Mum Blodwyn.

ELDERTON
David

Passed away 21.06.2011
1 year has passed since you left us.
Loving memories of a dear Dad and Pap.
Loved and missed everyday but will always be in our hearts.
Love from Becky, Mark, Danielle and Josh x

SUMPTER
Elsie

Passed away 19th June 2011.

Mum it's been a year since you left me and nothing seems the same, but you will always be forever in my heart until we meet again.

With love,
Delia.
xxx

Northampton Mercury

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Interview date: Tuesday, 10 July 2012.

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Interview date: Wednesday, 18 July 2012.

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GETTING SHIRTY – Clarke Carlisle throws his shirt to the Cobblers fans after the final game of last season at Rotherham

Carlisle 'unlikely' to sign on at Sixfields

CLARKE CARLISLE is 'unlikely' to sign permanently for the Cobblers this summer but manager Aidy Boothroyd is refusing to concede defeat in his attempts to bring in the defender.

The 32-year-old was a big success on loan over the final four months of last season, playing every minute of every game and providing the stability and leadership that helped secure the club's Football League status.

But Carlisle is likely to be in demand over the summer, and Boothroyd admits the fact that his club is located more than 100 miles away from the player's home town will probably count against him.

"It is unlikely for the simple reason that it is not a mile down the round from his house," he said. "If it was, it would be perfect for him with all the various things he's got going on with his TV commitments and his PFA work.

"The fact he lives in Halifax and that he's got a young family, all of these things take their toll.

"We haven't actually sat down and made a concrete offer to him and he hasn't been on the phone asking to sign every day, because he'll have a lot of other offers.

"From a purely human point of view, as a guy who knows him well and who is his friend, it is important to get this move right.

"When you have kids you don't get that time again and that can affect a player and that's why I think it's unlikely.

"We never give up hope because of what he can give us as a leader and those intangible things that people don't notice, he was a big part in making sure we survived.

"It isn't a yes and it isn't a no at the moment, it's a maybe and that won't be concreted until the start of pre-season."

Northampton remain in the hunt for a central defender, for whom the club are prepared to pay a fee, having seen a bid rejected in the last January transfer window.

The club are remaining tight-lipped over the identity of the target but it is understood Preston's former Torquay centre-back Chris Robertson is not the man in question.

"It is a very strong possibility but it is complicated, as it often is," said Boothroyd. "When you've got a buyer, a seller and a player in the middle it is often like that.

"Both clubs want the best price they can get and I don't want to use up all of my budget to get one player when I need to be bringing in four or five."

Wilson: Saints will be strong

ROGER WILSON believes the Saints squad will be bigger and better than ever next season – despite his exit.

The Irish No.8 leaves Northampton this summer as he rejoins former club Ulster after four years at Franklin's Gardens.

Wilson is joined on the exit list by the likes of Chris Ashton and James Downey, but Saints have already moved to replace the departed starts.

The likes of Cameron Shepherd and Ken Pisi have been snapped up, while more signings, particularly in the centre positions have not been ruled out.

Roger Wilson

And Wilson believes Jim Mallinder will get things right this summer to continue the club's 'slow and steady' progression since promotion back to the Premiership in 2008.

"Year on year we improved a little bit," said Wilson. "If you look at the year they got up from the Championship it was just about stabilising themselves as a team and not getting relegated.

"We went on to win the Challenge Cup which gave us quick entry into Europe the next year and from then we got into the play-offs and the Heineken Cup and a year after that we got to the final of the Heineken Cup.

"Each year has been slow and steady improvement. They're building a bigger squad each year as well and allowing players to rotate a little bit more, which is crucial in the way the league is set up over there.

"It does take a bit of time to create a big, successful squad but it's something they really are getting right at the moment."

Wilson will enjoy a reunion at the Gardens next season with his Ulster side set to meet Saints in the Heineken Cup.

And the 30-year-old is hoping for a good reception when he returns to the club where he established himself as a first-team fixture.

"I think I left on good terms and everyone's been really supportive since I left," he said.

"It's all been very positive and hopefully I will get a good reception and can meet up with everyone after and have a catch up with a beer."

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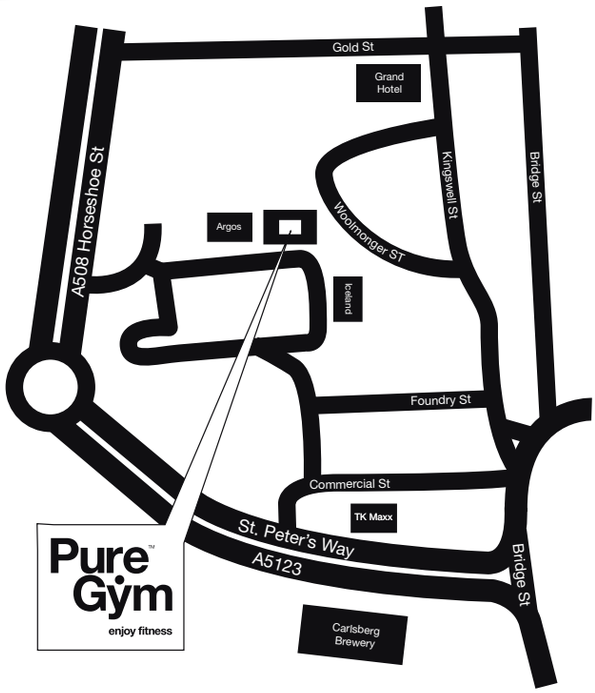

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